

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 11-15 and 18-22 are pending in this application, with claims 15 and 18-22 currently under examination. By this paper, claim 15 is amended as agreed upon in the Examiner Interview of June 19, 2006.

Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of an in-person interview on June 19, 2006. At the interview, an amendment to claim 15 was discussed and language distinguishing the invention from the cited art was agreed upon.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office rejected claims 15 and 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent 1,112,991 to Dufner ("Dufner"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

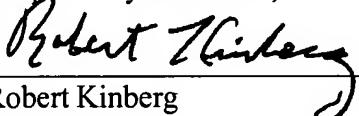
Amended claim 15 requires a zigzag cutting structure formed of at least three cutting plates, each cutting plate having opposite ends and a cutting edge extending between the opposite ends. The three cutting plates are joined at their ends in series of junctions to form the zig-zag cutting structure, and each junction has, at most, two plates. The cutting edge of Dufner does not meet the limitations of amended claim 15 for at least the reason that Dufner's blade does not meet the required claim language of "each junction having at most two plates". Therefore, claim 15 is not anticipated by Dufner.

Claims 18-22, are allowable at least for being dependent from allowable claim 15, are also not anticipated by Dufner.

In light of the arguments presented above, it is submitted that present claims 15 and 18-22 are allowable over the Dufner reference. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Request for Continued Examination is also being submitted with this Amendment.

Applicant requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance indicating the allowability of claims 15 and 18-22 and that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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